

**U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
POLLUTION REPORT**

**I. HEADING**

**Date:** May 21, 2003  
**From:** Kevin M. Matheis, On-Scene-Coordinator *Kevin M. Matheis*  
U.S. EPA Region II  
**To:** R. Salkie, EPA J. Rotola, EPA  
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S. Soden, WRS I&E, Inc. Weston Solutions

**Subject:** Buffalo Weaving and Belting Co., City of Buffalo, NY:-  
Fire damaged buildings containing drums of unknown materials and fire  
damaged materials; and suspected asbestos-wrapped piping beneath  
collapsed roofs and fire damaged debris. Other buildings contain drums,  
laboratory chemicals, asbestos, and electrical transformers

**POLREP NO:** Three (3).

**II. BACKGROUND**

**SITE/SPILL NO.:** 02TU  
**RESPONSE AUTHORITY:** CERCLA/SARA  
**NPL STATUS:** Non-NPL  
**CERCLIS ID:** NYD002111375  
**START DATE:** April 18, 2003  
**COMPLETION DATE:** N/A  
**VERBAL FUNDING:** April 18, 2003 by ERRD Division Director  
**ACTION MEMO (AM) STATUS:** Signed May 5, 2003

**III. RESPONSE INFORMATION**

**A. Situation** (See POLREP 1)

**B. Actions Taken**

- I. Dismantling of site buildings began on May 12. Entry through the front of the structure was accomplished with front-end loader. The long-reach excavator was maneuvered under the power wires and has begun dismantling buildings. Niagara Mohawk Power shut off the power along the front wires adjacent to the buildings to facilitate dismantling

of brick structures in front of the site buildings. As of May 21, ERRS completed removal of building 11. Non-hazardous demolition debris is being sent for landfill at BFI landfill, located in Niagara Falls, NY. A total of 8 trucks containing 80 tons of debris has been sent off-site thus far. Metal from the building is being segregated for recycling at a later date.

2. The second floor of building 8 is currently being dismantled. This building contained the laboratory and electrical equipment. The area was extensively fire damaged but drums, lab chemicals, electrical transformers and capacitors are fire-damaged and partially intact within the debris. ERRS is carefully removing the chemicals from this area. As of May 21, a total of 14 partially full drums, 13 empty drums, 24 capacitors, 6 transformers, 45 lab chemical containers and 16 five gallon pails of unknowns have been extracted from the debris. These containers were placed into new containers and placed into designated drum storage areas.
3. Encapsulant is being applied to suspected asbestos pipe wrap prior to dismantling the buildings in proximity to the pipes. As asbestos pipe wrap becomes accessible, the asbestos will be abated.
4. Air monitoring results have been negative for asbestos and particulate monitoring has shown minimal dust generation to date. EPA will continue to monitor the site. Radiation screening within the fire damaged buildings and debris continues to be at background levels.
5. An information sheet notifying the 160 residences surrounding the site was distributed. This information sheet summarized air monitoring results to date, closure of Chandler Street for two months, and overall operational plans and information. Mike Basile, of EPA's Public Information Office in Niagara Falls, NY is the point of contact for the information sheets and he has received feedback through the council member office. Citizens are appreciative of EPA's cleanup efforts, though a few comments were concerned about the duration of the street closure and its impact on truck traffic.
6. EPA's enforcement team was on-site to review site files and gather PRP information.
7. ORC is currently working on an access agreement with CSX railroad for access to their right-of-way. CSX sent EPA a draft of the agreement and ORC is coordinating access.
8. An internet web site has been created for posting of air monitoring data, site photos and updated site information. The address is [www.oscnet.org/buffaloweaving](http://www.oscnet.org/buffaloweaving). Air monitoring results are expected to be posted at this site by May 30.

### **C. Future Actions**

1. Negotiations for access to the site via CSX property will continue. Access should be forthcoming in the near future.

2. Dismantling operations, removal of hazardous substances from site debris, abatement of asbestos piping, and overall cleanup operations within the fire damaged buildings will continue.
3. Site will be demobilized on May 23 for Memorial Day Observance and operations will resume on May 27.

**D. Key Issues**

None

**IV. COST INFORMATION: As of 05/21/03**

Site Ceiling as of 05/21/03			
	Total Ceiling	Costs to Date	Amount Remaining
WRS I&E	\$ 350,000	\$ 180,000	\$ 170,000
RST/EPA	\$ 80,000	\$ 35,000	\$ 45,000
Totals	\$ 430,000	\$ 215,000	\$ 215,000

The costs above reflect the amounts obligated to the project at this time but do not reflect the entire site ceiling amounts. If additional funding is necessary, the totals will be adjusted accordingly.

The above accounting of expenditures is an estimate based on figures known to the OSC at the time this report was written. The OSC does not necessarily receive specific figures on final payments made to any contractor(s). Other financial data, which the OSC must rely upon, may not be entirely up-to-date. The cost accounting provided in this report does not necessarily represent an exact monetary figure which the government may include in any claim for cost recovery.